

Steve George Chief of Staff

Mark Mathers
Chief Deputy Treasurer

RE: Nevada College Kick Start Savings Program

Dear Parents of Kindergarten Students:

I'm writing to you with exciting news! As administrator and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the College Savings Plans of Nevada, it gives me great pleasure to announce a new pilot program we are launching in your child's school, the *Nevada College Kick Start Program*.

The *Nevada College Kick Start Program* will help support the dream of a college education for your kindergarten child by establishing a \$50 savings account in your child's name, which will continue to earn interest over the years. We chose to launch the *Nevada College Kick Start Program* with kindergarteners because it provides you and your family with a <u>13-year</u> window in which to save for future higher education costs.

Did you know that studies prove that your child is $\underline{7x}$ more likely to attend college than those without a savings account. A savings account sends a strong message for your child: "You are a college saver. You are college-bound." It's important to note that the study found that even small accounts, often not enough to buy books for a semester, improves a child's determination and preparedness for college and higher education.

We hope you will consider using this initial \$50 deposit as a stepping stone to greater college savings. To increase your child's college savings, we encourage you and other family members to consider opening a separate SSgA Upromise 529 Plan college savings account to incrementally grow your child's savings over the next thirteen years. Whatever amount you can save in your individual account will help with your child's college costs. You can open an account for as little as \$15, and then make contributions of \$15 per paycheck or \$50 per month. Remember, research has shown that any amount of college savings helps plant a seed in the mind of your child; that college is an attainable goal.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at 1-888-477-2667, or visit our *Nevada College Kick Start* website at http://CollegeKickStart.nv.gov, which includes a "Frequently Asked Questions" section.

With Warm Regards,

Kate Muchal)

Kate Marshall State Treasurer

CARSON CITY OFFICE

State Treasurer 101 N. Carson Street, Suite 4 Carson City, Nevada 89701-4786 (775) 684-5600 Telephone (775) 684-5623 Fax

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555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 4600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101-1074 (702) 486-2025 Telephone (702) 486-3246 Fax